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Sent By: COZEN O'CONNOR;

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DOCKET NO.: IBIS-0403(IBIS0055-100)

EXAMINING GROUP NO. 1624 CENTRAL FAX CEN

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Scrial No.: 10/071,978

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Eric E. Swayze

Serial No.: 10/071,978

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Filed: 02/06/2002

Group Art Unit: 1624

Examiner: Habte, Kahsay

Title: NOVEL BENZIMIDAZOLE COMPOUNDS

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On December 9, 2003

Ken Tarbet Reg. No. 43,181

BOX AF Commissioner for patents PO BOX 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In response to the Office Action mailed July 2, 2003 in connection with the above-identified patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows. As a preliminary matter, Applicant is grateful to the Examiner for providing guidance and assistance through the telephonic interview of November 19, 2003.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3.

Sent By: COZEN O'CONNOR;

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SERIAL NO.: 10/071,978

PATENT FILED:02/06/2002

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 20 of this paper.